

By: Representative Kinkade

To: Wildlife, Fisheries and
Parks

HOUSE BILL NO. 976

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 59-21-9, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO
2 REQUIRE THE VALIDATION DECAL CERTIFYING THE AWARDED NUMBER TO BE
3 DISPLAYED ON EACH SIDE OF THE VESSEL WITHIN SIX INCHES OF THE
4 AWARDED NUMBER; TO BRING FORWARD SECTION 59-21-19, MISSISSIPPI
5 CODE OF 1972, WHICH RELATES TO CERTIFICATE FORM, DURATION AND
6 TRANSFER OF VESSELS, FOR PURPOSES OF POSSIBLE AMENDMENT; AND FOR
7 RELATED PURPOSES.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

9 **SECTION 1.** Section 59-21-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
10 amended as follows:

11 59-21-9. (1) The number awarded shall be painted on or
12 attached to each side of the bow of the vessel for which it was
13 issued. The numbers shall be placed on each side of the forward
14 half of the vessel in such position as to provide clear legibility
15 for identification. The numbers shall read from left to right and
16 shall be in block characters of good proportion not less than
17 three inches in height. The numbers shall be of a color which
18 will contrast with the color of the background and so maintained
19 as to be clearly visible and legible, i.e., dark numbers on a



20 light background, or light numbers on a dark background. No other
21 number shall be carried on the bow of such vessel.

22 (2) In addition to the requirements for the display of the
23 awarded number for the vessel, the validation decal certifying the
24 awarded number shall be displayed on each side of the vessel
25 within six (6) inches of the awarded number.

26 **SECTION 2.** Section 59-21-19, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
27 brought forward as follows:

28 59-21-19. (1) The certificate of number shall be
29 pocket-size, approximately two and one-half inches (2-1/2") by
30 three and one-half inches (3-1/2"), and water resistant.

31 (2) Pending the issuance of the original certificate of
32 number, the owner of the vessel may be furnished a temporary
33 certificate of number valid for sixty (60) days from the date of
34 issue. This temporary certificate shall be carried on board when
35 the vessel is being operated.

36 (3) Each applicant for an original or transfer certificate
37 of number, who is entitled to issuance thereof, shall be issued a
38 certificate for a period of three (3) years from the last day of
39 the month of receipt of the original or transfer certificate.
40 This subsection shall not apply to the certificate of number of a
41 livery boat.

42 (4) The certificate of number of a livery boat shall be
43 plainly marked "livery boat." The description of the motor and
44 type of fuel will be omitted from the certificate of number in any



45 case where the motor is not rented with the boat. Original and
46 renewal certificates of number of a livery boat shall be valid for
47 a period of three (3) years and shall expire at midnight on June
48 30.

49 (5) Numbers and certificates of number awarded boats
50 operated by manufacturers and dealers may be transferred from one
51 (1) boat to another. In lieu of the description, the word
52 "manufacturer" or "dealer," as appropriate, will be plainly marked
53 on each certificate. The manufacturer or dealer may have the
54 number awarded printed upon or attached to a removable sign or
55 signs to be temporarily mounted upon or attached to the boat being
56 demonstrated or tested so long as the display meets the
57 requirements of Section 59-21-9.

58 **SECTION 3.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
59 and after July 1, 2023.

